


What is claimed is:

1. A hand-held rotary cutter for cutting thin sheet materials, comprising:  
a handle having a hand grip portion ; and  
a circular cutting blade having a cutting edge, a diameter, and a thickness,  
wherein the cutting blade is pivotally mounted to the handle ;  
wherein the diameter of the cutting blade is not greater than fifteen times the thickness.
2. The hand-held rotary cutter of claim 1 wherein the diameter of the cutting blade is not greater than ten times the thickness.
3. The hand-held rotary cutter of claim 2, wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is not less than forty degrees and not greater than fifty degrees.
4. The hand-held rotary cutter of claim 3, wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is not less than forty-three degrees and not greater than forty-seven degrees.
5. The hand-held rotary cutter of claim 4, wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is substantially equal to forty-five degrees.
6. The hand-held rotary cutter of claim 1 wherein the diameter of the cutting blade is substantially equal to six times the thickness.
7. The hand-held rotary cutter of claim 6, wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is not less than forty degrees and not greater than fifty degrees.
8. The hand-held rotary cutter of claim 7, wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is not less than forty-three degrees and not greater than forty-seven degrees.

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9. The hand-held rotary cutter of claim 8, wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is substantially equal to forty-five degrees.
10. The hand-held rotary cutter of claim 1, wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is not less than forty degrees and not greater than fifty degrees.
11. The hand-held rotary cutter of claim 10, wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is not less than forty-three degrees and not greater than forty-seven degrees.
12. The hand-held rotary cutter of claim 11, wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is substantially equal to forty-five degrees.
13. A hand-held rotary cutter for cutting thin sheet materials, comprising:  
a handle having a hand grip portion ; and  
a replaceable cutting blade and clip assembly , wherein the cutting blade includes a diameter and a thickness, and the diameter is not greater than fifteen times the thickness, and the cutting blade is rotatably mounted on the clip;  
wherein the cutting blade and clip assembly is attached to the handle and can be selectively replaced.
14. The hand-held rotary cutter of claim 13 wherein the diameter of the cutting blade is not greater than ten times the thickness.
15. The hand-held rotary cutter of claim 14, wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is not less than forty degrees and not greater than fifty degrees.
16. The hand-held rotary cutter of claim 15, wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is not less than forty-three degrees and not greater than forty-seven degrees.

17. The hand-held rotary cutter of claim 16, wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is substantially equal to forty-five degrees.

18. A hand-held rotary cutter for cutting thin paper products, comprising:  
a handle having a hand grip portion ; and  
a circular cutting blade having a cutting edge, a diameter, and a thickness,  
wherein the cutting blade is pivotally mounted to the handle ;  
wherein the diameter of the cutting blade is not greater than fifteen times the thickness.

19. The hand-held rotary cutter of claim 18 wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is not less than forty degrees and not greater than fifty degrees.

20. A rotary cutter for cutting thin sheet materials, comprising:  
a support member ; and  
a circular cutting blade having a cutting edge, a diameter, and a thickness,  
wherein the cutting blade is pivotally mounted to the support member ;  
wherein the diameter of the cutting blade is not greater than fifteen times the thickness.

21. The rotary cutter of claim 20, wherein the diameter of the cutting blade is not greater than ten times the thickness.

22. The rotary cutter of claim 21, wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is not less than forty degrees and not greater than fifty degrees.

23. The rotary cutter of claim 22, wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is not less than forty-three degrees and not greater than forty-seven degrees.

24. The rotary cutter of claim 23, wherein the cutting edge includes an edge angle that is substantially equal to forty-five degrees.